

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 06792 301008Z

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9136

S E C R E T SEOUL 6792

NODIS CHEROKEE

EYES ONLY FOR EAGLEBURGER AND HUMMEL FROM AMBASSADOR

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS, US

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION WITH GENERAL STULWELL

REF: STATE 214420

1. YOUR MESSAGE (REFTEL) WAS NOT ONLY APPRECIATED BY ME BUT CAME AT MOST TIMELY POINT. STILWELL, AND EVEN MORE SO SENIOR MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF, WERE QUITE RESTIVE AND CRITICAL YESTERDAY ABOUT INSTRUCTIONS DURING MEETING I ATTENDED WHICH TOOK PLACE BEFORE I COULD TALK TO STILWELL ALONE. I WAS FORCED TO LAY DOWN STRICT EDICT THAT WE WOULD LIVE WITHIN OUR INSTRUCTIONS AND NOT FIGHT THEM OR INDICATE TO WAVERING ROKS ANY PERSONAL DOUBTS.

2. FOLLOWING THIS MEETING, I TALKED ALONE WITH STILWELL, MAKING POINTS SET FORTH IN REFTEL ON "PERSONAL" BASIS, REQUESTING THAT CONVERSATION NOT GO BEYOND THE TWO OF US. STILWELL TOOK ABOARD WHAT I HAD TO SAY AND, WHILE ESSENTIALLY NOT HAPPY, RECOGNIZED, THAT WE HAD NO CHOICE BUT MAKE BEST POSSIBLE DEAL WITH NORTH KOREANS, WITHOUT SEEKING FURTHER CONCESSIONS. ESSENTIALLY HE WOULD PREFER TO PIN DOWN NORTH KOREANS AND GAIN FURTHER CONCESSIONS WHICH WOULD MINIMIZE FUTURE PROVOCATIONS, AN UNDERSTANDABLE VIEWPOINT IN HIS CAPACITY AS FIELD COMMANDER. HIS VIEWS ARE MORE THAN SHARED BY HIS SENIOR STAFF WHO ARE ENCOURAGED IN

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THIS POSITION BY ROK MILITARY AND I CAN ONLY HOPE THAT HE WILL

KEEP THEM UNDER CONTROL.

3. I STILL THINK THAT SEPARATE INSTRUCTIONS TO HIM FROM GEORGE BROWN WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL, SINCE UNDOUBTEDLY THERE IS STILL LINGERING ELEMENT OF FIGHTING THE PROBLEM ON STILWELL'S PART.

4. I WILL CONTINUE MY CONSTANT EFFORT TO KEEP SITUATION WITHIN U.S. COMMUNITY UNDER CONTROL AND WITHIN FRAME-
WORK OF WASHINGTON INSTRUCTIONS. I HAVE ASSIGNED FULL TIME OFFICER TO STAFF HANDLING NEGOTIATIONS AT SECRETARIES' MEETING TO THIS EFFECT. BUT, YOU SHOULD REALIZE THAT NEGOTIATORS ARE UNDER STILWELL'S DIRECT COMMAND AND THEREFORE SUBJECT TO MANNER HE INTERPRETS INSTRUCTIONS, WHATEVER WE AGREE TO BETWEEN US. ALL THE MORE REASON FOR SOME DIRECT MESSAGE, IF POSSIBLE, FROM GEORGE BROWN.
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